AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) An optical ~~scanning device as defined in claim 1,~~ device for scanning a subject medium with a scanning beam that is oscillated by a polygon mirror driven by an electric motor, said optical scanning device comprising:

a polygon mirror;

a base board for fixedly placing side polygon mirror thereon; and

mounting means for mounting said polygon mirror thereon through said base board so as to place an axis of rotation of said polygon mirror directed vertically;

wherein said mounting means is configured so as to prevent a current of air generated due to rotation of said polygon mirror from penetrating into below said base board;

wherein said mounting means comprises a support frame which is configured in conformity with said base board so as to support said base board from the back in a condition where said support frame is nearly in contact with a strip-like periphery of the base board.

3. (currently amended) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 2, wherein said support frame is provided with setting surfaces arranged thereon at approximately regular separations and uneven with remaining surface of said support frame, said support frame being in ~~contacts~~ contact with said base board at said setting surfaces only.

4. (original) An optical scanning means as defined in claim 3, wherein each said setting surface is uneven with a difference of approximately 0.5 mm at most.

5. (original) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 4, wherein said mounting means further comprises a fitting frame which is shaped in conformity with said base board so as to receive said base board therein and even with said setting surface of said support frame.

6. (original) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 3, wherein said base board has a generally rectangular shape having a thickness, said setting surfaces are arranged at four corners of said support frame with a difference of approximately equal to said thickness of said base board from said support frame.

7. (original) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 3, wherein

said mounting means is provided in a recess formed in a bottom floor of a housing in which said polygon mirror is arranged.

8. (original) An optical scanning device for scanning a subject medium with a scanning beam that is oscillated by a polygon mirror driven by an electric motor, said optical scanning device comprising:

a generally rectangular box-shaped housing;

a polygon mirror unit including at least a polygon mirror and a generally rectangular base board to which said polygon mirror is fixedly attached;

a dust proof chamber formed in said generally rectangular box-shaped housing for housing said polygon mirror unit therein; and

mounting means disposed within said dust proof chamber for mounting said polygon mirror unit thereon through said base board so as to place an axis of rotation of said polygon mirror directed vertically;

wherein said mounting means is provided with turbulence prevention means for preventing generation of turbulent air flows due to rotation of said polygon mirror below said base board.

9. (original) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 8, wherein said mounting means comprises a support frame which is configured in conformity with said base board so as to support said base board from the back in a condition where said support frame is nearly in contact with a strip-like periphery of the base board and a fitting frame which is configured in conformity with said board so that said base board is fitted therein.

10. (currently amended) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 9, wherein said support frame is provided with setting surfaces which are arranged at four corners thereof and in ~~contacts~~ contact with said base board.

11. (original) An optical scanning means as defined in claim 10, wherein each said setting surface is uneven with remaining surface of said support frame with a difference of approximately 0.5 mm at most.

12. (original) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 10, wherein said fitting frame has a depth equal to a thickness of said base board.

13. (original) An optical scanning device as defined in claim 10, wherein said mounting means is provided in a recess formed in a bottom floor of said dust proof chamber.

14. (new) An optical device for scanning a subject medium with a scanning beam, comprising:

a base board;

an electric motor mounted to the base board, the electric motor having a rotary shaft;

a polygon mirror attached to the rotary shaft such that both the polygon mirror and the electric motor are disposed entirely on a first side of the base board; and

a frame mount secured to a bottom face of the base board on a second side of the base board opposite the first side;

wherein the frame mount and the bottom face of the base board define a space below the base board, the frame mount and the bottom face of the base board being arranged so that rotation of the polygon mirror does not cause movement of air in the defined space.

15. (new) The optical device of claim 14, wherein the base board, the electric motor, the polygon mirror, and the frame mount are arranged within a dust proof chamber.

16. (new) The optical device of claim 15, wherein the frame mount is arranged on a floor of the dust proof chamber, the frame mount comprising:

a plurality of separate contact surfaces extending from the floor of the dust proof chamber, to which portions of a periphery of the base board are secured; and

a strip extending from the floor of the dust proof chamber toward the periphery of the bottom face of the base board;

wherein the strip has a height from the floor of the dust proof chamber less than that of the contact surfaces, so that the strip does not make contact with the base board.

17. (new) The optical device of claim 16, wherein the base board is generally rectangular in plan view, the contact surfaces being arranged at respective corners of the base board.

18. (new) The optical device of claim 17, wherein the strip extends along the floor of the dust proof chamber between adjacent ones of said contact surfaces.

19. (new) The optical device of claim 16, wherein the height of the contact surfaces is no more than 0.5 mm greater than the height of the strip.

20. (new) The optical device of claim 17, wherein the height of the contact surfaces is no more than 0.5 mm greater than the height of the strip.

21. (new) The optical device of claim 18, wherein the height of the contact surfaces is no more than 0.5 mm greater than the height of the strip.